Functioning of CCTVs

1139. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Closed Circuit Cameras (CCTVs) were installed at New Delhi Railway Station to keep a watch on militants and unsocial elements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these CCTVs are functioning properly;

(d) if not, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken by the Railways to ensure proper maintenance and functioning of CCTVs at Railway Stations with a view to achieve the objective for which they were installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A CCTV system with 17 Nos. (11 fixed & 6 with zoom) of Cameras, 6 TV Monitors and 6 display units are working at New Delhi Station.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The system is maintained through annual maintenance contract.

Gauge conversion of Rameshwaram line

1140. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of work on the gauge conversion of Rameshwaram rail line;

(b) by when the project will be completed and broad gauge trains will start running upto Rameshwaram; and

(c) the details of other proposed gauge conversion projects which are pending in the Southern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) On Madurai-Manamadurai section, earthwork,

bridges and ballast collection are in progress. The mega block on Madurai-Manamadurai section has been taken up and the section is targeted for completion during 2004-05. Work on Manamadurai-Mandapam is targeted for completion during 2005-06. The consultancy tender for Pamban bridge existing between Mandapam and Rameshwaram has been processed. Once this project gets completed, train services will be available upto Rameshwaram.

(c) Details of pending projects that is, which are sanctioned but not yet completed, are given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of various ongoing gauge conversion projects under Southern Railway, their present status and the expenditure incurred so far and the target date of completion.

Name of Project	Length (In Kms)	Anticipated cost as per Pink Book 2004-05 (Rs. in crore)	Anticipated expenditure incurred upto 31.3.2004 (Rs. in crore)	Currents status & Target date of completion wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5
1. Dindigul-Tiruchchirappalli	93	138.31	137.23	Work on main line completed and commissioned. Coach maintenance facility at Madurai is in progress.
2. Tiruchchirappalli —Nagore-Karaikal	200	142.83	91.44	Work between Tiruchchirappalli and Thanjavur has already been completed and commissioned. Work between Thanjavur and Tiruvarur has been taken up where earthwork, bridge works and ballast collection are in progress. This section is targeted for completion during 2004-05. Mega block has also

1	2	3	4	5
				started. Land acquired for Nagore- Karaikal and work on major bridge has commenced. On Nagapattinam-Vailankanni section, earthwork, bridge and station building works are in progress.
3. Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur & Tenkasi-Virudhunagar	357	462.61	137.70	Work on Virudhunagar-Tenkasi section has already been completed and commissioned. Works are in various stages of progress in Quilon-Punalur & Tirunel-veli-Tiruchendur section. On the balance project, final location survey on the Ghat section between Tenkasi and Punalur has been completed and the report is under finalisation.
4. Thanjavur-Villupuram	192	231.00	49.89	Work between Thanjavur and Kumbakonam has been completed and commissioned. Balance work is under implementation by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited.
5. Cuddalore-Salem *via* Vriddhachalam	191	261.10	40.70	Work on Vriddhachalam-Cuddalore section has been completed and commissioned. Earthwork and ballast collection are in progress in the remaining section. Balance work is under implementation by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited.
6. Trichy-Manamadurai	150	187.91	5.48	Final location survey and preparation of drawings for bridges are in progress. Preliminary arrangements are also being made to take up works on bridges.

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1	2	3	4	5
7. Villupuram-Katpadi	161	239.59	2.08	Preliminary arrangements are being made to take up works on this project.

Dining Cars in long distance trains

1141. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a policy to attach Dining Cars to long-distance passenger trains;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that many long distance trains have no Dining Car attached to them;

(c) what steps Government propose to take to make travel a comfort for long-distance train passengers;

(d) whether more hygienic catering will be ensured; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Indian Railways have taken steps to ensure good quality of food supplied by them on trains from base kitchens and railway stations. Some of these include use of quality raw materials and branded products, setting standards of hygiene and cleanliness, training of staff, frequent surprise checks and inspections etc. Moreover, with a view to upgrade and professionalise catering services on trains as well as at railway stations, Ministry of Railways have set up the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation.